Mid-Atlantic 2011: Breaking the Record



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One record not enough, local rowers to cross Atlantic again

SEATTLE (2/22/10) – Three years ago, four young local men braved the North Atlantic Ocean in a rowboat no larger than a Cadillac, won the race and set a Guinness World Record. Next December (12/2011) OAR Northwest will attempt to break the 36-day mid-Atlantic speed record for a four-person rowboat while competing in the 2011 Atlantic Rowing Race.

Onboard are familiar faces Jordan Hanssen & Greg Spooner, Guinness World Record holders from the last row. Two new faces are Rick Tarbill, a Boeing flight engineer and elite-level US rower from Seattle, and Victoria BC's Adam Kreek, author and gold medalist from the 2008 Beijing Olympics in the Canadian Men's 8+ crew. With their new carbon fiber boat and the latest ocean rowing technology, they are already considered the team to beat. The race will start in the Canary Islands and finish in the Caribbean.

This month the crew took its first strokes together, plying the waters of Puget Sound for a 40-mile teambuilding row around Vashon Island. The team is preparing for, and can expect fierce storms, unwieldy 800-foot container ships, and daily wildlife sightings of dolphins, sharks, whales, and sea turtles. For more information on OAR Northwest, and to follow the team's progress, visit www.OARnorthwest.com.

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